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—that so many things cannot be satisfactorily done in a single volume. Yet we are coming more and more to feel that the rhetoric text need be only a set of interesting composition projects with some very clear directions for accomplishing them, and that our histories of literature are burdened with masses of useless detail. The test of such a book as this is not how much detail it gives but how clear and usable it is. The more one turns over the pages of *Rhetoric and the Study of Literature*, the more he is impressed with the practical nature of the whole book. It may not be the *best* rhetoric or the *best* history of literature, but it ranks high as both of these; and it is, with one exception, the only practical high-school students' handbook for the study of literature as art.

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THE FRESHMAN AND HIS COLLEGE

It is a byword among educators that the Freshman on first entering college is placed under the most serious of handicaps through the newness of almost all aspects of college life and his total inexperience in preparation for them. As a rule, he is warned of this as he leaves school and reminded of it as he enters college by the utterances of deans and the assurances in college journals. He is gravely warned that the water is deep, and then left to flounder alone.

Professor Lockwood's book, *The Freshman and His College*, is as amazing as certain obvious inventions the value of which everybody recognizes—as soon as they are made.[1] This slender volume includes seven brief sections by the author, only twenty pages in all, devoted to the opportunity of college work, the meaning of college education, the difficulties and the dangers and the current criticism of the American college, and the value of clinging to ideals, developing industry, and wisely selecting work. Then follow twelve admirably selected utterances from John Henry Newman, William James, Presidents Jordan, Hyde, Eliot, Meiklejohn, and Hibben, from J. B. Johnson, W. W. Thoburn, and the author.

One's first inclination on thoughtfully reading the volume is to send it to every Freshman of one's acquaintance; next, for reasons of economy, at least to recommend it to them, and finally, as a matter of expediency, to require it as a supplement to any Freshman composition

[1] *The Freshman and His College: A College Manual.* By FRANCIS CUMMINS LOCKWOOD. New York: D. C. Heath & Co., 1913. Pp. vi+156.

course. If the book does not inspire thoughtful seriousness in the entering Freshman, the fault is not with the book but with the student. He is at an age when he is naturally inclined to consider his ways and be wise. He has little stimulus in his early college weeks to do this. What between the distractions of social life and the urgent requirements of elementary courses, he is doomed to a life of objective details. The book of Messrs. Steeves and Ristine is a guide away from this direction, but it lacks the merit of Mr. Lockwood's compilation through dealing with subjects which are fundamental but not at first sight related to the immediate life of the Freshman. For student or faculty member, there is no question as to the value of the quoted utterances in Mr. Lockwood's volume.

The contents is devoted to abstractions and is intended to be. Some day perhaps the volume will be supplemented by another which will deal concretely and with abundant illustration with the problems, particularly those related to study, which the Freshman has to tackle. The new book will not supplant the present volume. The two together will make an invaluable pair. In the author's contributions, the critic is forced somewhat to deplore a certain lack of aggressive self-confidence. His utterances lack what the Freshman would call "pep." They are altogether sound in substance, but somewhat "literary" in quality. Yet this single defect is a slight one, and the book deserves the widest circulation and the most respectful study.

P. H. B.

BOOK NOTICES

[Mention under this head does not preclude review elsewhere.]

The New American Drama. By RICHARD BURTON. New York: T. Y. Crowell, 1913. Pp. 277. $1.25 net.

A study of present-day conditions and tendencies. The point of view is that of criticism; the author makes no attempt to chronicle first nights or dates of publication.

Newspaper Writing and Editing. By WILLARD G. BLEYER. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1913. Pp. 365. $1.65 net.

A handbook with numerous illustrative examples and abundant exercises for practice.

Tennyson and Browning. A Manual for College Classes and Other Students. By ROBERT H. FLETCHER. Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1913. Pp 258. $1.10.

A book to be used in a two-hour course running through a year. There are chapters on the principles of poetry, on the relation of the poets to their time, and on the lives of the authors, together with topics for study, questions, assignments, bibliographies, and an index. Simplified spelling has been used.